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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/687,028	10/16/2003	Lenora K. Levin	P-B066	9106

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EXAMINER	
NGUYEN, HUNG T	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2636	

DATE MAILED: 12/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/687,028	LEVIN, LENORA K.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	HUNG T. NGUYEN	2636	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *17 October 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-12* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-12* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *16 October 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is still objected to because it must be submitted in a **separate sheet** as well as the remarks. Applicant should recognize that the Abstract of the invention and the Remarks can **not** be on the same page. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claim 1-3, 5, 7-10 & 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Evans (U.S. 5,614,884) in view of Tan (U.S. 6,043,740).

Regarding claim 1, Evans teaches a vehicle turn signal device [figs.1,6, col.2, lines 28-34 and col.8, lines 13-39] comprising:

- a human operated signal initiation device (36,16) [figs.1,6, col.2, lines 28-34, col.7, lines 62-65 and col.8, lines 13-39];

- a flasher (76) is connected to light indicators for flashing (40,42,52-62) [figs. 1-2,5-6, col.1, lines 40-52, col.2, lines 39-49 and col.4, lines 11-22, col.7, lines 40-48 and col.8, lines 24-39];

- at least a delay device / timers (88-94) communicate with the flasher and circuit of turn signal for flashing short duration (15 second) and long duration (70 second) of turn signals as the driver operator activated the control stalk (36,160) [figs. 1-2, 5-6, col.7, lines 40-48, col.7, lines 62-67 and col.8, lines 13-39].

The references of Evans does not specifically mention the circuit causes the vehicle turn signal to operate in a combination of long and short light signals as claimed by the applicant.

A flasher device includes a circuit which can be programmed to produce a desired sequence of short and long flashes by manufacture / company without the use of mechanical devices.

Furthermore, Tan teaches vehicle signaling apparatus comprises a circuit to operate the light signals which is shown in fig.2 as waveform shows a first of two pulses followed by a short delay, less than 3 seconds, followed by a second pulse train of four pulses, followed by a long delay [fig.2, col.1, line 56 to col.2, lines 6].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have the teaching of Tan in the system of Evans for providing at least two indication signals as long and short light signals to the on coming traffic and pedestrians.

Regarding claims 2-3, Evans teaches the delay device / timers (88-94) communicate with the flasher and circuit of turn signal for flashing short duration (15 second) and long duration (70 second) of turn signals as the driver operator activated the control stalk (36, 160) [figs. 1-2, 5-6, col.7, lines 40-48, col.7, lines 62-67 and col.8, lines 13-39].

Regarding claims 5 & 7, The reference of Evans & Tan do not specifically disclose exactly term as the circuit causes the vehicle turn signal to operate in a repeat series of two short light signals followed by one long light signal, with short delays after the short light signals and long delay after the long light signal as claimed by the applicant.

A flasher device includes a circuit which can be programmed to produce a desired sequence of short and long flashes by manufacture / company without the use of mechanical devices.

Furthermore, Tan teaches vehicle signaling apparatus comprises a circuit to operate the light signals which is shown in fig.2 as waveform shows a first of two pulses followed by a short delay, less than 3 seconds, followed by a second pulse train of four pulses, followed by a long delay [fig.2, col.1, line 56 to col.2, lines 6].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to utilize the teaching of Tan in the system of Evans to provide more safety as a multi sequence indication signals to the on coming traffic and pedestrians.

Regarding claim 8, Evans teaches a vehicle turn signal device [figs. 1 ,6, col.2, lines 28-34 and col.8, lines 13-39] comprising:

- a human operated signal initiation device (36,16) [figs.1,6, col.2, lines 28-34, col.7, lines 62-65 and col.8, lines 13-39];

- a flasher (76) is connected to light indicators for flashing (40,42,52-62) [figs. 1-2,5-6, col. 1, lines 40-52, col.2, lines 39-49 and col.4, lines 11-22, col.7, lines 40-48 and col.8, lines 24-39];

- at least a delay device / timers (88-94) communicate with the flasher and circuit of turn signal for flashing short duration (15 second) and long duration (70 second) of turn signals as the driver operator activated the control stalk (36,160) [figs. 1-2, 5-6, col.7, lines 40-48, col.7, lines 62-67 and col.8, lines 13-39].

Regarding claims 9-10, Evans teaches the delay device / timers (88-94) communicate with the flasher and circuit of turn signal for flashing short duration (15 second) and long duration (70 second) of turn signals as the driver operator activated the control stalk (36, 160) [figs. 1-2, 5-6, col.7, lines 40-48, col.7, lines 62-67 and col.8, lines 13-39].

Regarding claim 12, The reference of Evans & Tan do not specifically disclose exactly term as the circuit causes the vehicle turn signal to operate in a repeat series of two short light signals followed by one long light signal, with short delays after the short light signals and long delay after the long light signal as claimed by the applicant.

A flasher device includes a circuit which can be programmed to produce a desired sequence of short and long flashes by manufacture / company without the use of mechanical devices.

Furthermore, Tan teaches vehicle signaling apparatus comprises a circuit to operate the light signals which is shown in fig.2 as waveform shows a first of two pulses followed by a short delay, less than 3 seconds, followed by a second pulse train of four pulses, followed by a long delay [fig.2, col.1, line 56 to col.2, lines 6].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to utilize the teaching of Tan in the system of Evans to provide more safety as a multi sequence indication signals to the on coming traffic and pedestrians.

4. Claims 4 & 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Evans (U.S. 5,614,884) in view of Tan (U.S. 6,043,740) further in view of Boxer (U.S. 5,731,755).

Regarding claims 4 & 11, The references of Evans & Tan do not specifically mention the circuit causes the vehicle turn signal to operate in a series of light signal and delays as claimed by the applicant.

However, Boxer teaches vehicular U-turn indicator having a series of sequentially illuminated lights (12, 14,32A) which can be activated by a driver operator as providing a clear indication signal to the on coming traffic and pedestrians [figs.1,3, col.3, lines 13-32, col.4, lines 9-14 and abstract].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to employ the teaching of Boxer includes a feature of series of light signal and delays in

the system of Evans & Tan to provide a series of indication signals and contributing more safety to the on coming traffic and pedestrians.

Arguments & Responses

5. Applicant's arguments filed on Oct. 17, 2005 have been fully considered but they are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung T. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2982. The examiner can normally he reached on Monday to Friday from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hofsass, Jeffery can be reached on (571) 272-2981. The fax phone number for this Group is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

HUNG NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Examiner: Hung T. Nguyen

Date: Nov. 30, 2005